

PSJ2 Exh 70

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

In re: :
:
National Prescription : Case No.
Opiate Litigation : 1:17-MD-2804-DAP
:
This Document Applies :
to: All Actions :

Video Rule 30(b)(6) Deposition of
Ohio Department of Medicaid
By and Through its Designee:
DONALD P. WHARTON, M.D.
(Called by the Defendants)
Sheraton Columbus Capitol Square
75 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio
Wednesday, November 14, 2018
8:45 a.m.

Reported by:
Linda D. Riffle, RDR, CRR, CRC,
and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio

1 So, you know, I'm -- I'm actually pretty
2 proud of -- of all the work that we've done.
3 We've --we've accomplished some, but I still know
4 we have more to do. This is a big problem, and
5 it's -- and it's -- it's going to be a big
6 solution, so . . .

7 Q. Okay. So let's turn briefly to some of
8 the meetings we talked about. The P&T committee
9 --

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. -- and the DUR committee or DUR board?

12 A. Sure.

13 MR. DOVE: Counsel, let me just remind
14 you, under the deposition protocol, we're
15 entitled to a minute-by-minute recross.

16 MS. SINGER: Thank you.

17 MR. DOVE: Just so you're aware of where
18 we are going in the afternoon.

19 MS. SINGER: Thank you.

20 BY MS. SINGER:

21 Q. So are drug company representatives
22 typically at D- -- P&T committee meetings?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And does that include companies that
25 make and market opioids, who come to these P&T

1 committee meetings, to your knowledge?

2 A. I would assume so, but I don't know that
3 for a fact. I have -- I don't -- I couldn't
4 identify one.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. So . . .

7 Q. And is it typically the case that these
8 companies -- these companies make presentations
9 about drugs?

10 A. Uh-huh, yes.

11 Q. And is the goal of those presentations
12 to try to make sure they're on the preferred drug
13 list?

14 A. Of course. Yes.

15 MR. KNAPP: Objection to form.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 BY MS. SINGER:

18 Q. Why don't you tell me what the purpose
19 is of -- of their presentations just to --

20 MR. KNAPP: Objection --

21 MR. DOVE: Objection.

22 MR. KNAPP: -- to foundation and form.

23 THE WITNESS: So the purpose is -- the
24 purpose is to see that their drug is on the
25 preferred drug list and, therefore, having less

1 administrative barriers towards getting that drug
2 for their providers --

3 BY MS. SINGER:

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- who want to prescribe it.

6 Q. And in any of the -- and are you
7 typically at P&T committee meetings?

8 A. Most of them, yes.

9 Q. Okay. And during your time at ODM and
10 speaking for ODM, have you ever seen in any of
11 these meetings someone from a pharmaceutical
12 company suggest that ODM restrict its coverage of
13 opioids?

14 A. Somebody from a manufacturer?

15 Q. (Nods head.)

16 A. No, I have not.

17 Q. Have -- have they ever suggested limits
18 on dose or duration of use for -- of coverage for
19 opioids?

20 A. I have not heard that, no.

21 Q. Okay. Have they ever made presentations
22 on what ODM can do to address the opioid
23 epidemic?

24 MR. KNAPP: Objection to form.

25 THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge.